

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (H) APPROPRIATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Bob Keenan-R, on April 12, 2023 at 4:04 PM, in Room 102

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)  
Rep. Mary Caferro, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)  
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)  
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Naarah Hastings (R)  
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)  
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)  
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)  
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)  
Rep. Terry Moore (R)  
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)  
Rep. Joe Read (R)  
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)  
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. David Bedey (R)  
Rep. Terry Falk (R)  
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)  
Rep. Bob Keenan (R)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Matt Regier (R)  
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Staff Present:** Quinn Holzer, Fiscal Analyst  
Julie Johnson, Research Analyst  
Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted:

SB 3 04/12/2023

SB 11 04/12/2023

SB 93 04/12/2023

SB 282 04/12/2023

Executive Action:

16:05:26 Vice Chair Caferro assumed the gavel.

**HEARING ON SB 282 - Revise laws related to area agencies on aging**

**Opening Statement:**

16:06:36 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 282, Revise laws related to area agencies on aging.

**Discussion:**

16:06:54 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy and Rep. Gillette joined the meeting.

16:07:17 Rep. Hopkins and Rep. Hamilton left the meeting.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

16:09:16 Rep. Gillette

16:10:06 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R

16:10:08 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter joined the meeting.

**Closing Statement:**

16:14:55 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 282.

**HEARING ON SB 11 - Generally revise criminal justice system laws**

**Opening Statement:**

16:17:15 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 11, Generally revise criminal justice system laws.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:21:27 Nanette Gilbertson, one more Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

16:24:00 Rep. Fiona Nave

16:26:50 Sen. Barry Usher-R

16:28:15 Rep. Falk joined the meeting.

16:29:18 Rep. Bill Mercer

16:30:12 Rep. Windy Boy joined the meeting.

16:34:19 Sen. Barry Usher-R

**Closing Statement:**

16:38:58 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, closed the hearing on SB 11.

**HEARING ON SB 3 - Revise forest land taxation laws**

**Opening Statement:**

16:53:15 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 3, Revise forest land taxation laws.

**Discussion:**

16:59:59 Rep. Moore left the meeting.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

17:00:16 Vice Chair Mary Caferro

**Closing Statement:**

17:00:23 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 3.

**HEARING ON SB 93 - Generally revising ballot issues**

**Opening Statement:**

17:00:38 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 93, Generally revising ballot issues.

**Proponent Testimony:**

17:02:13 Jessie Luther, Montana Chamber of Commerce, Montana Business Leadership Counsel

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

17:03:23 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

17:03:52 Sen. Mike Cuffe-R

**Closing Statement:**

17:10:44 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 93.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:13:49

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Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230412APHaad\)](#)